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20  25

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ON PAGE 12


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TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURE STORY

- 12 Royal Palm Realty:
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Local Expertise,
Unmatched Results!

PUBLISHER'S PAGE

- 14 April Awakening: Get
Ready for Summer

CALENDAR

- 16, 18 April 2025

COMMUNITY NEWS

- 21 Red Flag Warnings
What Weston Residents
Need to Know
- 24 Ten Years of Culture
at Weston World Fest
- 32 Relay For Life of
Plantation, Weston,
Davie, Cooper City:
Uniting to End Cancer

SCHOOL NEWS

- 26 Falcon Cove Students
Raise Funds for Joe
Dimaggio Children's
Hospital
- 30 Don't Miss The Talent of
Weston's Young Artists

ROTARY NEWS

- 22 Rotary Protects the
Environment Locally
and Beyond

LEGALLY SPEAKING

- 28 3 Asset Protection Tips
You Can Use Now

FROM THE CHAMBER

- 36 Greetings from Your
Chamber CEO!

2025 SUMMER

CAMP GUIDE

- 38-52 Getting Ready for
School Break

ASK THE EXPERT

- 54 Flatfoot in Children
- 56 Protect Your Vision
The Importance of
Wearing Sunglasses
- 57 Unlocking Business
Growth: Why Mastering
English and Spanish
is Essential

SAFETY CORNER

- 55 Ride Smart, Stay Safe:
Bicycle Safety Tips &
Family Fun Night

FROM TEE TO GREEN

- 58 Two Invaluable
Putting Tips

ANIMAL HEALTH

- 60 Canine Urine Marking

FROM THE STATEHOUSE

- 61 Autism Awareness Month

REAL ESTATE

- 62 Adapting to the Shifting
Market: Opportunities in
the Real Estate
Landscape

PET OF THE MONTH

- 66 Meet "Biscuit"

PUZZLE PAGE

- 66 Crossword & Sudoku
Answer Key
ourcitymedia.com/puzzles

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Luxury Service, Local Expertise, Unmatched Results!

Buying or selling a home in South Florida is one of life's most significant decisions. At Royal Palm Realty, it is more than just a transaction—it's about maximizing value, breaking records, and achieving results that others simply can't. With a strategic, hands-on approach to real estate, every client is supported, informed, and confident in their decisions.

A Boutique Firm with a Proven Track Record

South Florida is a dynamic and competitive market, and standing out requires both expertise and innovation. Royal Palm Realty was founded to provide exactly that—a highly customized real estate experience built on integrity, deep market knowledge, and results-driven strategies. While serving all of Broward, Palm Beach, Miami, and the Keys, the firm's roots run deepest in Weston, where it consistently sets new sales benchmarks and remains the trusted choice for buyers and sellers looking for results.

Founded by Wendy Newman-Schepke, a Carnegie Mellon graduate with a background in construction and property management. She brings over two decades of real estate expertise. Her experience in Manhattan and Chicago real estate provides a sharp understanding of market dynamics, while her technical expertise helps clients make informed choices about renovations, home values, and investment potential. Wendy's ability to blend

strategic negotiation with a personal touch has earned her a reputation as the go-to agent for achieving record-breaking sales—especially in Weston, where her deep community ties and market expertise make all the difference. Whether helping sellers get top dollar for their homes or guiding buyers to the perfect investment, Wendy ensures that every detail is executed flawlessly.

Real Estate is About Relationships

At Royal Palm Realty, success isn't just measured in numbers—it's built on relationships. Real estate is deeply personal, and buying or selling a home is often tied to life's biggest milestones. That's why the team prioritizes trust, communication, and long-term connections. Many of their clients are repeat customers or referrals, a testament to the exceptional service and genuine care they bring to every interaction.

Being deeply rooted in Weston, they don't just sell homes—they build community. They take pride in helping families establish roots, investors grow their portfolios, and individuals find their perfect space. With an unwavering commitment to understanding each client's needs and providing tailored guidance, Royal Palm Realty is more than a brokerage—it's a trusted partner.

Meet the powerhouse team at Royal Palm Realty—setting standards, building lasting connections, and delivering unparalleled results in South Florida real estate.



A Team That Delivers Unmatched Results in Weston and Beyond

Other Realtors follow the market—Royal Palm Realty sets it. The team goes beyond the basics to craft high-impact marketing strategies, attract the right buyers, and negotiate deals that maximize value. Each agent brings a unique perspective, whether it's international business expertise, deep community connections, or a passion for helping families find their perfect home. What unites them is a shared commitment to making the buying or selling process strategic, seamless, and incredibly successful. With an office based in Weston and a team that actively lives, works, and engages in the community, Royal Palm Realty is the go-to boutique firm for Weston real estate.

Audrey Gordon – A Palm Beach County expert who guides clients with deep market insight.

Dianne Denis – With 20+ years of experience, she specializes in luxury properties and knows the Weston lifestyle inside and out.

Eva Hajmassy – A multilingual expert who skillfully manages local and international clients.

Jordan Davis – A creative problem solver dedicated to building community through real estate.

Kara Walter – Blending expertise in marketing, sales, and the hospitality industry to help clients find homes that fit their lifestyle.

Lisa Calle – A South Florida native passionate about helping clients achieve their homeownership dreams.

Lisette Hampton Hache – A real estate investor and Airbnb superhost who helps clients navigate investment properties.

Mariana Fontanarrosa – Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, with deep expertise in international business and logistics, seamlessly connecting high-net-worth clients to exclusive real estate opportunities.

Ron Resha – Licensed in both Massachusetts and Florida, helping clients transition seamlessly between markets.

Tara Hoffman – A specialist in luxury property sales who understands the nuances of high-end transactions.

Why Sellers and Buyers in Weston Choose Royal Palm Realty

Selling a home isn't just about listing it—it's about strategic positioning, standout marketing, and skilled negotiation. That's why Royal Palm Realty has consistently outperformed the competition, selling homes faster and for higher prices than market averages. In Weston, Royal Palm Realty has set records by selling homes at top dollar, bringing in the highest offers, and closing deals that others couldn't. With top-tier marketing strategies, cutting-edge technology, and an extensive network, properties reach the right buyers and command the best price.

For buyers, Royal Palm Realty doesn't just find homes—it unlocks opportunities. With deep local knowledge, expert negotiation skills, and a keen eye for value, clients make smart investments, whether they are first-time homebuyers, relocating, or expanding their portfolios. As Weston real estate specialists, the team understands the local schools, communities, and lifestyle, ensuring buyers find not just a house, but a home.

**At Royal Palm Realty,
we don't just promise results—
we deliver them!**

Our dedicated team blends extensive expertise with unwavering commitment to guide you seamlessly through every real estate endeavor. Ready to buy or sell in Weston? Call us at 954-326-5335, email Wendy@RoyalPalmRealtyFlorida.com, or visit our website—just scan the QR code to get started!



April Awakening: Get Ready for Summer



April is here, bringing longer, hotter days. This season is a time of growth, both in nature and in our own lives. It's a chance to let go of the past and look ahead with optimism.

As Rainer Maria Rilke said, "Spring is the time of plans and projects." It's a great time to set new goals, take on new challenges, and embrace the longer, sunnier days.

With that in mind, we're excited to share **Our City's Annual Summer Camp Guide** in this month's edition. Summer camps offer kids a variety of enriching experiences, from arts and science to sports and outdoor fun. Whatever their interests, there's a camp to make their summer both enjoyable and meaningful.

As we enjoy the beauty and warmth of spring in South Florida, let's embrace the opportunity for new beginnings. Whether it's pursuing a new hobby, embarking on a home improvement project, or simply taking more time to enjoy the outdoors, let the renewal of the season inspire you.

April is a time of preparation for the adventures ahead.

Here's to a bright and exciting spring—and the summer fun that awaits!

With warmth and connection,

Christy & Terry Jaillet

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April 2025 Calendar

APRIL 4

Optimist Club Bunco Night

Let's roll and fight cancer together! The City of Cooper City and Optimist Club of Cooper City are hosting a Bunco Night with proceeds helping support the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Whether you have played Bunco before or new to the game, all are welcome to join in the fun in the spirit of raising funds to support cancer research. Registration costs \$20 per participant, which will be donated to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Cooper City Community Center.

Scan the QR code to register or for more info.



APRIL 5

Relay For Life Pickleball Tournament

The City of Cooper City & Optimist Club of Cooper City are hosting a Doubles Pickleball Tournament to benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The exciting event allows players to register as single players to participate in a round-robin tournament, where a partner will be selected for them, or a competitive round-robin where players can register their team to compete. Check-in will begin at 7:30 AM on the event day. Games will start at 8 AM.

Hosted at the Suellen H. Fardelmann Cooper City Sports Complex. **Scan the QR code to register or for more info.**



APRIL 8

Moonlight Movie in the Park: The Marvels

Enjoy a full-length feature film projected on a giant inflatable screen with family and friends. Bring lawn chairs or blankets. Coolers are welcome (no alcohol permitted). No pets allowed at Regional Park. Please leave your furry friends at home. 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm at Weston Regional Park.

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APRIL 10,11

The Descendants the Musical

The award-winning Cypress Bay Lightning Drama troupe returns to its childhood with the Disney fantasy "The Descendants the Musical" about how the children of Disney's favorite villains interact with his iconic characters. Shows start at 7:00 pm on both nights.

Scan the QR Code for more info.



APRIL 16

Flamingo Nursery Storytime

Bring the little ones to Flamingo Road Nursery every Wednesday in April for a delightful nature-themed storytime. Children aged 3-5 will enjoy engaging storytelling in a welcoming environment, followed by a charming stroll through the flower-filled nursery. The free story time begins at 11:00 am. **For more info, scan the QR code.**





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April 2025 Calendar

(CONTINUED)

APRIL 12

Earth Day, The Weston Way

Let's support earth-friendly environmental efforts! This family-friendly event will feature educational booths, hands-on activities, arts and crafts, and a live DJ with music and giveaways. Learn about the City's Community Wildlife Habitat designation through the National Wildlife Federation, and how residents can register their own gardens or yards, too. 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at 4255 Bonaventure Blvd. **Scan the QR code for more info.**



APRIL 20

Easter

Christians worldwide will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, as described in the New Testament. The holiday is the culmination of Holy Week, following Good Friday, which commemorates Jesus' crucifixion. Easter is observed on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. Traditions include church services, festive meals, egg hunts, and the exchange of chocolate eggs, symbolizing new life and rebirth. **Happy Easter to everyone celebrating, from all of us at Our City!**

APRIL 14

Weston Foreign Film Series

The fifth and final movie of the Weston Foreign Film Series will be shown at 4:45 pm & 7:15 pm at the AMC Weston 8 Cinema, 1338 SW 160th Avenue. Doors open 30 minutes before showing. Tickets are \$10 in the AMC lobby at the Arts Council of Greater Weston table, as available. This month, the Spanish film, THE GOOD BOSS will be shown. "Awaiting a visit by a committee that could give his company an excellence award, the owner of an industrial-scale manufacturing business tries to resolve any problems with his workers in enough time." **For more info, visit www.1weston.com.**

APRIL 25

Relay For Life

Relay For Life is the world's largest volunteer-based fundraising event. For more than 36 years, communities across the world have come together to honor and remember loved ones and take action for lifesaving change. At Relay For Life you'll find community members taking turns walking around a track lined with luminaria bags. You'll have the opportunity to cheer for local survivors (or participate as a survivor) in our first lap of the day. Caregivers of cancer patients (currently or previously diagnosed) will then be invited to join the Survivors. This month's event will be hosted Plantation Central Park, 9151 NW 2nd St. **Scan the QR code to register or learn more.**



APRIL 19

Weston's Royal Egg Hunt

Arrive early! One of Weston families' favorite events of the year. The hunt is on for over 30,000 candy-filled eggs and several special prize eggs for additional prizes. Be sure to bring your own basket or bag for collecting. The eggs are gone in a flash, so arrive early to park and find the age-appropriate field for your child. Egg hunt activities are for children ages 10 and under. Arrive at the park by 9:15 am. After the Egg Hunt, take photos with the Royal Bunny, enjoy interactive inflatable games, and more springtime fun for all ages until 12 noon. **For more info, call 954-389-4321.**

APRIL 12-20

Passover

Wishing a happy Passover holiday to all of our Jewish readers. Passover is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. It is celebrated for seven or eight days, depending on the Jewish tradition. The holiday is marked by a number of rituals and customs, the most well-known of which is the Seder. The Seder is a festive meal that takes place on the first night of Passover, during which the story of the Exodus is retold and special foods, such as matzo and bitter herbs, are eaten. The holiday is a time for family gatherings, reflection, and gratitude for freedom and deliverance.

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RED FLAG WARNINGS

What Weston Residents Need to Know

As dry conditions and strong winds persist, the National Weather Service (NWS) has issued Red Flag Warnings throughout South Florida, including Weston and surrounding areas. These warnings signal that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring now or are imminent, posing a heightened risk of wildfires.

What Does a Red Flag Warning Mean?

A Red Flag Warning is issued when low humidity, high winds, and dry vegetation combine to create a significant fire hazard. During this time, even a small spark can quickly become a fast-moving wildfire. For residents of Weston and other communities in South Florida, this means taking precautions to prevent accidental fires and being prepared to evacuate if necessary.



Safety Tips for Residents

- **Avoid Outdoor Burning:** Even small campfires or bonfires can easily get out of control during these conditions.
- **Secure Outdoor Equipment:** Make sure grills, fire pits, and other potential fire hazards are completely extinguished and properly stored.
- **Dispose of Cigarettes Safely:** Never discard lit cigarettes on the ground, especially in dry areas.
- **Stay Informed:** Keep up with local news and weather updates, and consider signing up for emergency alerts from the National Weather Service.

How to Stay Updated

Residents are encouraged to monitor weather updates from trusted sources, including:

- **National Weather Service (NWS):** Visit weather.gov for real-time alerts and updates.
- **Local News Stations:** Stay tuned to TV and radio broadcasts for the latest information.
- **Smartphone Apps:** Download apps like the FEMA app or local news apps to receive push notifications when warnings are issued.

By staying vigilant and prepared, South Florida residents can help minimize the risks associated with Red Flag Warnings. Always exercise caution during these periods, and if you see smoke or signs of a wildfire, call 911 immediately.

Stay safe, stay informed, and do your part to prevent wildfires in our community.

Welcome to Spring!

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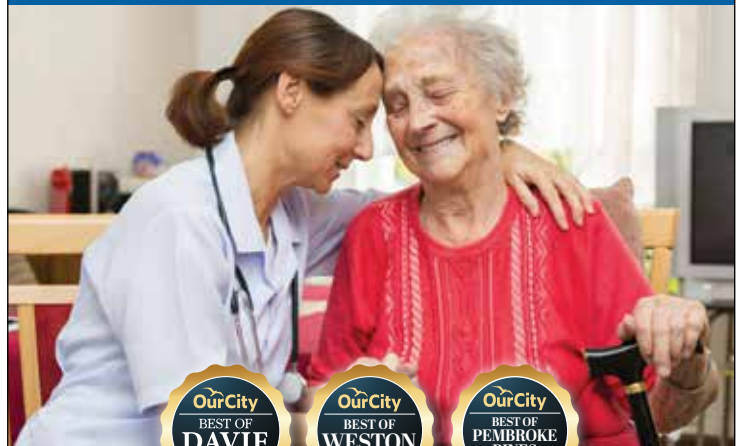


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ROTARY PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT LOCALLY AND BEYOND



Rotary is dedicated to causes that build international and local relationships, improve lives and create a better world through seven areas of focus that allow us to determine how we can have the most impact on lives around us. The Rotary Club of Weston supports over 30 causes, through its volunteer and fundraising efforts, that fall into one of these seven areas of focus that include: peace-building and conflict prevention; disease prevention and treatment; water, sanitation and hygiene; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; community economic development; and supporting the environment.

The Rotary Club of Weston's environmental initiatives have allowed us to help our local community in several ways that have made a real difference. The Rotary Beach Clean Up day is scheduled every month and has attracted Rotary members and non-members of all ages. Buckets of debris are located and safely removed from our sandy beaches where they are a hazard to not only our fragile wildlife but to the humans that visit.

The Cypress Bay High School Interact Club, sponsored and supported by the Rotary Club of Weston, has a similar initiative collecting and disposing of plastic in our environment and recently collected and disposed of over 1000 pounds of plastic bags from our community.

Our Rotary Satellite Evening Club (SEC) took on a pollination project that has extended to not only educating citizens about the importance of helpful plants and insects, but in creating, with the help of Cypress Bay High Honor Society, a beautiful butterfly garden at Manatee Bay Elementary School to allow students to see the importance and benefits of taking care of their environment. Helping keep electronics out of landfills is just one more way that we are helping keep our environment healthy and safe. For more information on all of our environmental initiatives and how you can get involved, please go to WestonRotary.com.



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TEN YEARS OF CULTURE AT WESTON WORLD FEST



center stage, alongside dance groups representing Ireland, India, Costa Rica, China, Venezuela, the Middle East, and the USA. Kicking off the festivities, Cypress Bay's Sound of Thunder marching band set the tone for an unforgettable day.

"The stage was filled with incredible performances throughout the event," said Annalisa Walker, Special Events Manager. "The vibrant costumes and international talent on display were the best to date in event history. It was a pleasure to watch the audience, of all ages, clap along and thoroughly enjoy the program."

Immersive Cultural Experiences

At the heart of the festival, twenty country booths and four Theme Village booths embraced this year's theme, "Patterns and Pastimes"—incorporating visual patterns into their décor and showcasing traditional hobbies and games. South Florida's diverse culinary scene was also on full display, with a variety of restaurants and caterers offering authentic international dishes and beverages for purchase.

The festival also featured local non-profit organizations, including Young At Art's "Good Humor" exhibit, along with booths from community businesses. Attendees enjoyed three interactive activity stations and had the chance to win prizes from fourteen event raffles.

A Growing Legacy

"Weston World Fest continues to grow at an impressive rate, surpassing all of our expectations year after year," noted ACGW President Laura Dobrzanski. "We are incredibly grateful for the community's overwhelming enthusiasm and dedication to celebrating diverse cultures in such a vibrant and unique manner. We extend our sincere appreciation to our sponsors, community partners, volunteers, and the City of Weston for their invaluable support in making this event a resounding success."

With ten years of cultural celebration in the books, Weston World Fest remains a shining example of community spirit, diversity, and global appreciation—all brought to life in the heart of Weston.



Weston World Fest marked a decade of cultural celebration on Sunday, March 2nd, at Weston Regional Park. Thanks to the dedication of hundreds of volunteers, support from a Broward County grant, generous sponsorships, and a long-standing partnership between the Arts Council of Greater Weston and the City of Weston, this milestone event welcomed more than 3,600 visitors.

"This annual festival celebrating cultures, cuisines, and entertainment from around the world is absolutely free to the community due to a lot of advance planning and DIY ('do it yourself') work by the Arts Council and our volunteers, plus planning, festival infrastructure, and management provided by our beloved Parks & Rec department," shared Carol Lema, the festival's founder and retiring director. "The Fest reflects the true spirit of cooperation, collaboration, and giving back to the community as we celebrate the cultures of our heritage and explore destinations we might wish to travel to or experience."

A Stage Alive with Global Performances

The festival's entertainment lineup captivated audiences with an array of international performances. Brazilian Voices, the Ukrainian Dancers of Miami, and Ronin Taiko took

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2553 Jardin Manor	4 - 3	Y - N	3,338	\$1,190,000	3/14/2025
1455 Lantana Dr	4 - 3	Y - N	2,530	\$1,020,000	3/14/2025
1616 Sweetgun Ter	5 - 3.5	N - N	2,672	\$765,000	3/14/2025
1285 Manor Court	5 - 4	Y - N	3,474	\$1,275,000	3/14/2025
16570 Royal Poinciana	3 - 2.5	Y - Y	2,290	\$785,000	3/14/2025
29 Fleming Ct	2 - 1.1	N - N	1,110	\$395,000	3/14/2025
2207 Charleston	3 - 2	N - N	1,547	\$610,000	3/13/2025
530 Spinnaker	3 - 2	N - N	1,751	\$749,000	3/12/2025
707 Stanton Dr	3 - 2	N - N	1,937	\$740,000	3/12/2025
1113 Bluewood Ter	4 - 2	N - N	1,997	\$680,000	3/7/2025

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Falcon Cove Students Raise Funds for Joe Dimaggio Children's Hospital

National Junior Honor Society students at Falcon Cove Middle School in Weston raised much-needed funds to buy books they'll likely never read for children most will never know.

Their selfless act resulted in a \$5,000 donation to Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Foundation, money that will replenish books used in the hospital's bibliotherapy program. The Weston residents raised the funds by selling coupon cards that can be redeemed for Domino's pizza.

"Bibliotherapy has a special place within the Child Life Zone where books help children understand what they may be going through," said Kelley Morris, president and

CEO of the pediatric facility's nonprofit foundation. "It's hard for a four-year-old to understand a cancer diagnosis, for example, so we use therapeutic books to share a story that is similar to what the patient is experiencing."

The check presentation was the centerpiece of an event that recognized Falcon Cove's top fundraisers and was attended by students, parents, faculty, and Stella Stringer, advisor to the middle school's honor society. "Our kids have gifts and talents we encourage them to use to make their South Florida community a better place. Fundraising for the children's hospital is something they're happy to do because it helps

patients and families going through tough times," said Stringer.

This is the fifth consecutive year Falcon Cove honor society students have made a \$5,000 donation while participating in the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Foundation's

All-Stars program. Previous contributions have supported the pediatric facility's expansion, helped start the bibliotherapy program, assisted with art therapy, and provided car seats to families of discharged patients that didn't have their own.



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(PICTURED ABOVE ARE ANDREA L. JAKOB, ESQ. AND ERIKA GARAY, ESQ.)

LEGALLY SPEAKING



3 ASSET PROTECTION TIPS YOU CAN USE NOW

By Andrea L. Jakob, Esq.

Think asset protection is just for the wealthy or high-risk professionals like doctors and lawyers? Think again! Anyone can face a lawsuit from a car accident, foreclosure, unpaid medical bills, or even an injured tenant. Protecting your assets is crucial for everyone. Here's how you can start safeguarding your hard-earned money and property today.

What Is Asset Protection Planning?

Asset protection planning involves using legal structures and strategies to shield your assets (like accounts and property) from creditors. It's not a quick fix for existing legal problems, though. Transferring assets to avoid creditors can be considered fraudulent and lead to legal penalties. The key is to plan ahead—before you face a lawsuit. Here are three tips to help you get started:

Tip #1: Load Up on Liability Insurance

Your first line of defense is insurance. This includes homeowner's or renter's, automobile, business, professional, malpractice, long-term care, and umbrella policies. Liability insurance not only covers money damages but can also help with legal fees. If you don't have an umbrella policy, talk to an insurance agent to see if it's right for you. These policies are relatively inexpensive compared to more advanced asset protection strategies. Review your current policies to ensure your coverage matches the value of your assets, and make adjustments as needed. Don't forget to review your policies annually to ensure they still provide adequate coverage.

Tip #2: Maximize Contributions to Your 401(k) or IRA

Federal law protects tax-favored retirement accounts, like 401(k)s and IRAs, from creditors in bankruptcy (with some limitations). Maximizing contributions to your company's 401(k) plan is a smart way to boost your retirement savings and safeguard your assets against creditors, predators, and lawsuits. If your company doesn't offer a 401(k) plan, consider investing in an IRA for the same benefits.

Tip #3: Move Rental or Investment Real Estate into an LLC

If you're a landlord or real estate investor, moving your properties into a limited liability company (LLC) can protect your assets from business-related creditors and lawsuits. There are two types of liability to consider:

- **Inside liability:** When the property itself is the source of the liability (e.g., a slip and fall on the property), creditors may try to seize your personal assets to satisfy the debt.
- **Outside liability:** When the debt is personal (not related to the LLC), creditors may try to seize the LLC's assets to satisfy your personal debt.

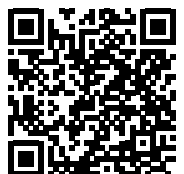
A properly formed and operated LLC limits inside liability to the value of the LLC's assets. In most states, creating an LLC also means that creditors can't access the LLC's assets to satisfy personal debts.

Real-Life Example: One of our clients owned an apartment building and was sued by a tenant who claimed lung damage from mold exposure. Because the property was held in an LLC, the tenant could only go after the assets within the LLC, not our client's personal assets. This protection was crucial in limiting the financial impact of the lawsuit.

If you're interested in using an LLC to protect your real estate investments, work with an attorney who understands the LLC laws and any potential tax implications for transferring property to another entity to ensure you're fully protected.

Check out this blog post I wrote 5 years ago about what an LLC really is!

You've worked hard to accumulate your money and property. Don't let a lawsuit take it all away. Call us today to evaluate your situation and craft an asset protection plan that best serves you and your loved ones.





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Don't Miss The Talent Of WESTON'S YOUNG ARTISTS

From April 1 to April 26, the Weston Branch Library will showcase the incredible creativity of local student artists. Sponsored by the Arts Council of Greater Weston and the City of Weston, the 18th annual Student Artist Showcase highlights outstanding artwork from public and private school students, spanning Pre-K through 12th grade.

Laura Dobrzanski, President of the Arts Council of Greater Weston, shared her enthusiasm: "We are excited to once again spotlight the incredible talent of our Weston students. Over a dozen schools are participating this year. The teachers pick out twelve works of art to represent their schools in the display. We are so appreciative of their dedication to their students being afforded the opportunity to have their works seen and appreciated by the whole community."

A panel of artist judges—Maria Garces Luzuriaga, Juliana Sierra, and Lifranco Rojas—will evaluate the submissions, selecting 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in seven categories across elementary,

middle, and high school levels. Lifranco Rojas remarked, "Each year, selecting the winners becomes increasingly challenging due to the exceptional quality of submissions. The diversity of subjects and the range of techniques used to create them are truly remarkable." The exhibit will also feature images of last year's winning pieces.

Young artists and their families will be honored at a special reception celebrating their achievements. Annalisa Walker, Special Events Manager for the City of Weston, emphasized the growing significance of the event: "We are so delighted to see the increase in participation for this wonderful exhibit. With the addition of the Arts to the STEM programs, now known as STEAM, it recognizes the importance of creativity to the learning of technical skills. Our City Commissioners are always eager to promote this city-wide

event and encourage our residents to stop by the library."

Make time this April to visit the Student Artist Showcase and experience the incredible artistic talent thriving in our community!



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Relay For Life of Plantation, Weston, Davie, Cooper City: UNITING TO END CANCER

On Friday, April 25, 2025, the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Plantation will bring the community together for an inspiring evening at Plantation Central Park. This powerful event celebrates survivors, honors loved ones lost, and fuels the fight against cancer with every step taken.

This year, as Relay For Life marks 40 Years of Impact, we reflect on the incredible movement sparked by Dr. Gordy Klatt in 1985. His vision—running a 24-hour marathon to raise funds—ignited a global movement that has since raised an astounding \$6.8 billion to save lives from cancer. Today, Relay For Life stands as the world's largest peer-to-peer fundraising event, with 2.5 million participants worldwide dedicated to changing the future of cancer.

"Relay For Life is more than just a walk. It's a movement that brings communities together to celebrate survivors, remember those we've lost, and raise funds to improve the lives of people affected by cancer," said Event Lead and cancer survivor Chris Fletcher.

Game On: Leveling Up for 40 Years

This year's theme—"Leveling Up For 40 Years – Game Over, Cancer"—promises a night filled with inspiration, entertainment, and community spirit. With over 50 teams and 1,000 participants, the event will feature:

A Special Survivor's Lap & Complimentary Dinner – Honoring those who have battled cancer, including Thrivers still fighting and the Caregivers who stand by their side.

Luminaria Ceremony at Sunset – A moving tribute where candles light up the night in remembrance, hope, and solidarity.

Exciting Games & Activities – Themed around our "Game Night" concept, ensuring fun for all ages.

"During our Relay event, we'll celebrate Survivors, Thrivers, and Caregivers—the true heroes in the fight against cancer," said Chris Fletcher, a Stage 4 Hodgkin's Lymphoma survivor.

Funds raised will directly support the American Cancer Society's mission, funding research, patient support, advocacy, and

education. This year, proceeds from the Relay Kids Zone will go toward Pediatric Cancer Research initiatives.

How You Can Get Involved

Join the Movement – Sign up to participate or form a team at www.relayforlife.org/plantationfl

Donate – Every dollar makes a difference. Visit www.relayforlife.org/plantationfl to give today.

Sponsor or Volunteer – Local businesses and community members play a crucial role in making Relay possible.

Event Details

- Relay For Life of Plantation, Weston, Davie and Cooper City
- Friday, April 25, 2025 | 5:00 PM
- Plantation Central Park, 9151 NW 2nd St, Plantation, FL

Join us as we take action, celebrate hope, and work toward a future where cancer is no longer a threat. Game Over, Cancer!

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GREETINGS FROM YOUR Chamber CEO!

By Patty Archer

April is National Volunteer Month, a time to celebrate the individuals and businesses that give back to our community. Beyond providing goods and services, many local businesses serve as the backbone of charitable efforts by donating their time, resources, and expertise to make a lasting impact.

From sponsoring youth programs to organizing employee volunteer days, our local businesses understand that strong communities create strong economies. When businesses invest in the well-being of their neighbors, they help build a more vibrant, connected, and resilient community.

At the Chamber, we proudly support and recognize businesses that go beyond their bottom line to support local nonprofits, schools, and community projects. Through our South Broward Foundation, we help fund high school scholarships, classroom grants, and nonprofit initiatives—all made possible by the generosity of local businesses and leaders.

At our annual Gold Star Breakfast, we honor local Teachers of the Year, recognize our outstanding Principals and Asst. Principals, and award grants to each high school. We extend an invitation to join us on April 11th, donate to a scholarship in your business name, or contribute towards the Teacher of the Year gift baskets.

We encourage businesses and residents alike to find ways to give back—whether through volunteering, donating, or supporting companies that prioritize community impact. Every act of service, big or small, helps strengthen the place we call home. Want to get involved? Connect with the Chamber to learn how your business can make a difference.

By making your business our business, the Chamber of Commerce is engaged in the priorities of our membership, businesses, community, and future generations of professionals and their business needs. Now and in the future, the Chamber is dedicated to being a Convener of Leaders, a Catalyst for positive change, and a Champion for a strong business community. For more information and our event calendar, visit www.westonflchamber.com.

Yours in Service,

Patty Archer

CEO/Executive Director



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With So Many Choices,
Your Kids Are Certain To Be –

Happy Campers!

Spring is here! Before we know it the kids will be out of school and summer break will have started. Lucky for us the Weston area is full of exciting opportunities for youngsters to pursue almost any interest.

Summer Camp is an opportunity for children to branch out, meet new people, try new things, and detach from reality for the summer. Between day camps, sports camps, science camps, dance camps, art camps, drama camps, and sleepaway camps, there is bound to be an option that is most suitable for your child.

DAY CAMPS, SPORTS CAMPS & SLEEPAWAY CAMPS

The multitude of camps available provide children and teens with opportunities to try new things and maybe even discover a new passion or develop an existing one even further. Camp encourages kids to live a healthy lifestyle by making new activities fun and by providing new experiences.

For example, some day camps include an overnight in which your child will have the opportunity to bond with other campers longer than a traditional day. They may be able to hike and sleep in the woods for the night or just stay over and watch movies

like a giant slumber party. Science camps challenge their campers to create robots and learn coding. Acting camps can get a timid child on stage whereas art camps can engage an active child to focus on painting and drawing while developing fine motor skills.

Although any camp will ensure that your child has a fun summer, sleepaway camps can truly have such a positive impact on kids of all ages. Maybe it is because most of these camps do not allow outside technology, or because it is a simpler way of living with no outside “noise” or interference. Simply stated, camps away from home provide a unique environment far away from the worries of life. Sleepaway camps have also been known to foster maturity and independence. Whether it is a few weeks or an entire summer, sleepaway camp inspires children and teens to be all they can be while bringing out the best version of themselves.

ADVENTURE OR ARTS

Depending what one chooses, specialized camps offer unique activities such as kayaking, horseback riding, waterskiing, ropes courses, rock climbing, mountain biking, fishing, and so many more. For

those wanting a quieter pace, art, yoga, and science camps offer courses to hone one’s skills and/or encourage new ones.

Without camp, developing children miss out on new opportunities and the chance to discover a passion or talent that might have gone unnoticed otherwise and most importantly themselves. Whether choosing a day camp or a sleepaway camp, your child will be able to express themselves without any judgment or fear. Even if you think your child is too shy for camp, the experience will encourage them to branch out and be more outgoing in the future.

CAMP FRIENDS ARE THE BEST FRIENDS

Not only is camp beneficial over summer, but meeting people (counselors and fellow campers) from across the country, down the street, and even from around the world is valuable year-round. Camp friends truly are the best friends and having people outside of their regular circle to lean on is priceless for all children going through elementary, middle, and high school years. Even when going to college, camp friends can help each other find roommates. The memories and friendships created at camp truly last a lifetime.





SUMMER CAMP at Weston YMCA!

Ready for FUN this summer? Join us at the Weston YMCA Family Center for 9 weeks of exciting camp options! Kids explore new adventures in sports, arts, science, aquatics, and more—all while building character and making memories that last.



CLUB Y After-School Care!

Looking for a safe, fun place for your child after school? Club Y offers arts, sports, homework help, and more, with a focus on healthy habits and social skills. We also offer School's Day Out care!

For more information please contact: **Katrella Johnson** | k.johnson@ymcasouthflorida.org

 20201 Saddle Club Rd, Weston FL 33327

 Call (954) 766-5673 for rates & special member discounts!

Searching for the perfect solution to keep your child both entertained and physically active over the

summer? Search no more—Summer Camp is here! Offering an array of programs, Summer Camp is a fantastic avenue for kids to mingle with their age group, explore new interests, and enhance their self-esteem. Plus, it gives parents the perfect opportunity to relax and unwind. This guide is your go-to resource for selecting the ideal camp for your youngster. Featuring extensive choices and professional advice, you can rest assured that your child will enjoy a fun-filled summer creating unforgettable experiences.

AIM High (Achieve in Medicine)

www.osteopathic.nova.edu
954-262-1467



Embark on a transformative journey into the world of healthcare with AIM-High, the ultimate immersion experience for high school students (rising sophomores to seniors) passionate about a future in medicine or any healthcare profession. This intensive program offers action-filled weeks where participants will engage directly with faculty members, and practice clinical skills from current students and residents. AIM-High is your early leap into a career in healthcare, providing a comprehensive, real-life glimpse of what your future could hold. Don't miss this chance to get ahead and truly understand what it means to commit to the path of healing and care.

With interactive activities designed to enhance understanding and foster teamwork, this program is the perfect starting point for aspiring aviators.

A Children's Carousel Summer Camp

www.achildrenscarousel.com
954-424-1898



Get ready for a summer full of fun, learning, and adventure at A Children's Carousel! Our camp, designed for children from infants to 8 years old, offers exciting activities that spark curiosity, creativity, and active play in a safe and nurturing environment. Camp will offer many on-site adventures, including

An interactive petting zoo, bouncy fun in the bounce house, water fun days with splash pools, sprinklers, and water games, and even special guest visits. The camp offers daily arts & crafts to encourage imagination along with outdoor play & exploration, engaging physical activities and, nature walks and outdoor discovery.

There is a special infant & toddler program with age-appropriate sensory activities, gentle play and exploration, and, music and movement.

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Weston, FL 33326

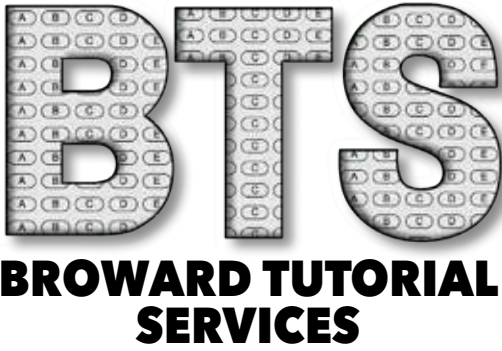


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www.BrowardTutorial.com
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A great SAT or ACT score can be life-changing. There is no better time to help your teen prepare for these important tests than the summer. Broward Tutorial Service (BTS) has been helping kids prepare for college entrance exams for years. They are experts at in-person and remote tutoring. BTS offers multiple sessions for the SAT, ACT and subject matter tests.



Camp ART-rageous

www.campartrageous.com
954-445-7272

Do you have a little one that loves drawing, painting and creative masterpieces? Then Camp ART-rageous is the perfect place to be! It is led by artists who help campers discover their artistic potential! Each week campers have a blast experimenting with different mediums while learning about new artists and techniques. Open to children ages 5-13. Campers look forward to walking through the studio doors ready to MAKE COOL ART!



9Round Boxing

www.9round.com
954-320-7338

Feel the transformation! 9Round is more than the 30 minutes you spend pushing yourself. It's the pride of knowing you did something hard. It's the satisfaction of learning a new skill and seeing progress. It's the community



fighting alongside you every day. 9Round builds confidence that you carry with you every minute of every day.

The innovative kickboxing offers total body fitness training right in the heart of Weston. Their Kids Camp Special is specially designed to help get the kids moving again in this era of screens and sitting. It is available to teens ages 13-18. Contact them now for one free week of kickboxing.

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2025

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JUNE 9TH - AUGUST 1ST

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION: [JFRYE@TEMPLEDORDORIM.ORG](mailto:jfrye@templdordorim.org)

(954) 389-1232 | 2360 GLADES CIRCLE, WESTON



Camp Chameleon

www.CampChameleon.com
954-815-9054



Camp Chameleon is celebrating fourteen years of summer camp fun at Markham Park. Camp Chameleon encourages enjoyment of the outdoors and teaches children, ages 6 to 15, an appreciation for nature. Physical activity is emphasized with a variety of non-competitive sports. Camp counselors provide an atmosphere that encourages participation in group games, creative projects, friendships and special activities. Campers also enjoy daily field trips to local pools, bowling alleys, skating, movies, indoor gyms, and more.

Camp Explorer

www.CreativeChildLearningCenter.com
954-796-0081



Camp Explorer offers a vibrant summer experience for children in kindergarten through fifth grade, designed to ignite curiosity and foster a love of

learning. Each day, campers embark on exciting field trips to explore local attractions, immersing themselves in the beauty and diversity of their surroundings. The camp features a special sports week, alongside a variety of engaging activities including cooking, art, and science projects.

With weekly themes like “It’s a Small World,” “Space Explorers,” and “Animal Kingdom,” children are introduced to a world of wonder and discovery. Further enriching the experience, Camp Explorer integrates STEM-focused themes such as “Biorobotics,” “Engineering a Metropolis,” and “Coding and Gaming,” offering campers a hands-on approach to learning and innovation.

Kinovu School Factory of Fun

www.kinovuschools.com
954-598-9800



The Factory of Fun is an exciting bilingual Summer Camp for children



aged 5 to 8 years old, where every day is an opportunity to explore, create, and discover. The program combines engaging, hands-on experiences with the care and expertise of Kinovu School’s dedicated teachers, nurturing each child’s curiosity, confidence, and problem-solving skills.

For 25 years, Edu1st.Schools have nurtured adaptable, bilingual, globally engaged learners through 11 preschools, two international grade schools, and its VESS curriculum. They are now bringing elementary education to Broward! An engaging, future-ready education is possible! Join their **OPEN HOUSE on Thursday, May 1st**. Now finalizing registrations for the 25-26 school year.

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Summer Karate Camp is a fun-filled, skill-building summer for all kids ages 5-13. Camp is open to everyone. NO PREVIOUS TRAINING REQUIRED!

Camp meets Monday-Friday from 9am-3pm. Early drop-off is available from 8am and late stay is available until 6pm. Campers can sign-up by the week, or longer! Discounts are available for multiple weeks! Registration is open throughout the summer, right up to the last week!

SPACE IS LIMITED! **(954) 217-6006**
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Camp Gan Israel Weston

www.ChabadofWeston.com
 cgiweston@gmail.com
954-349-6565



Camp Gan Israel Weston is celebrated for its role as a pioneer in the summer camp landscape, introducing innovative ideas, creative programs, and exciting new activities that set trends and elevate the camp experience. More than just ensuring campers have “a good time,” Camp Gan Israel Weston is dedicated to creating cherished memories that will endure for a lifetime.

With a comprehensive array of creative activities, games, field trips, sports, and more, the camp is committed to providing a safe, enjoyable, and enriching summer for all participants. Catering to a broad age range, Camp Gan Israel Weston welcomes children ages five to eleven, while Mini Gan offers a tailored experience for the younger ones, ages two to four, ensuring that every child has an unforgettable summer of fun and growth.



Hawaii Fluid Art Kids Camp

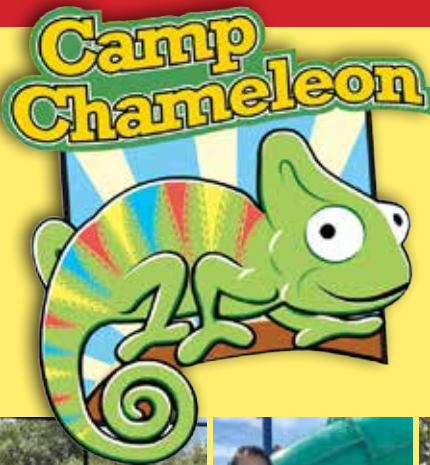
www.hawaiifluidart.com
954-250-8030



Hawaii Fluid Art Kid's Camps is a place where creativity flourishes, and imaginations run wild! With guidance and endless inspiration, students will unleash their creativity and make amazing artwork!

Perfect for field trips, summer camps, and after-school activities. Experience Fluid Art on canvases, tumblers, fluid bears and bunnies, glass painting, mosaics, characterie boards, pet bowls, skateboards, and more! Open for ages 6-14. 10:00 am - 1:00 pm.

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PRESCHOOL

Registration for new campers \$50

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Start date: June 9th, 2025

End date: August 6th, 2025



We can't wait to make this summer extraordinary for your child!

Sign up here



1051 Shotgun Road, Weston, Florida 33326 ☎ 954-424-1898

Camp Live Oak

www.CampLiveOakFI.com
954-563-4880



Camp Live Oak presents an enriching summer experience with its focus on environmental and marine science. Each week, campers delve into captivating environmental themes, embarking on a journey of discovery and learning. The camp's diverse schedule includes a wide array of activities, ensuring something new and exciting for every day of the week.



From field trips that explore the natural beauty of the surroundings to on-site adventures that bring the thrill of discovery, and guest speakers who share their knowledge and passion, Camp Live Oak promises a comprehensive camp experience. Additionally, the camp is thrilled to incorporate the Science of the Sea program at Birch State Park, enhancing its marine science curriculum.

Camp Nova

www.USchool.Nova.edu/summer
954-262-4506



Camp Nova offers a summer packed with fun, laughter, and new friendships for campers from kindergarten to grade 11. At the heart of the experience are Shark Camp and Minnow Camp, delivering traditional day camp joy. For those with specific interests, Camp Nova's specialty camps like Drobots, Marine Science, Sports, and Musical Theatre provide unique adventures.

The Summer Scholars program also enriches students with targeted learning in Reading, Math, Foreign Languages, Writing, and Language Arts, all in a supportive setting. Join us for a summer where memories are made, and passions are pursued.

Camp Woodland

www.campwoodlandfl.com
954-921-1497



Since its inception in 1983 at C.B. Smith Park, Camp Woodland has established itself as a premier summer day camp for boys and girls aged 5-16. With a deep-rooted mission to enrich young lives, Camp Woodland fosters friendships, new experiences, and cherished traditions within a secure setting.

At Camp Woodland, campers are encouraged to explore, gain self-confidence, and learn the importance of empathy and kindness towards others. More than just a camp, Camp Woodland is a FAMILY in the truest sense, dedicated to ensuring every camper feels a profound sense of belonging, happiness, and acceptance from the moment they step inside. Join us for a summer filled with meaningful connections and joyful discoveries.

Code Ninjas

westonfl@codeninjas.com
954-727-8797



Code Ninjas® is the world's largest and fastest-growing kids' coding franchise, with hundreds of locations in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. At Code Ninjas Cooper City, kids learn to code with a game-based curriculum they love. Parents love it, too, because their kids make real progress and gain valuable skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and STEM skills while having fun in a safe, inspiring, and immersive environment.

Code Ninjas Camps empower kids to explore and develop valuable skills, gain confidence, and make new friends. From coding and game building to STEM and robotics - it's an unforgettable fun learning experience!

Florida Children's Theatre

www.FLCT.org
954-763-6882



Florida Children's Theatre serves as an educational center for theatre arts serving children and families across South Florida. The oldest documented children's theatre in the state of Florida, FLCT was founded in 1952 by two mothers in a garage. The theatre quickly grew to be the first children's theatre organization to perform at Parker Playhouse, the Broward County Main Library Theatre, and Dillard Center for the Arts.

Each summer, FLCT hosts a vibrant summer camp for children interested in theatre at the Fine Arts Theatre at Broward College Central Campus in Davie. The summer camp is open to children in grades 2-10 and will feature productions of Honk, Jr. and Alice in Wonderland, Jr.

Camp at Sagemont Prep

www.Sagemont.com
954-384-1894



Celebrate a summer full of possibilities! Summer Camp at Sagemont Prep offers a fun-filled season of activities to learn, grow, and have fun. Whether it's scoring a goal in soccer, setting off a rocket, or making new friends, your child will enjoy awesome experiences at Summer Camp at Sagemont Prep. Watch your child's confidence grow as they conquer new challenges and pursue new interests. They offer academic camps, travel camps, and a wide range of specialty camps with daily swimming. Summer Camp at Sagemont Prep is open to Preschool–8th grade campers.





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FOR AGES 5-14

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CHECK OUR 2025 CAMPS

SCAN



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Soref JCC Summer Camp

www.sorefjcc.org
954-792-6700

Soref JCC Summer Camp is the ultimate destination for an unforgettable summer of fun, friendship, and adventure! Open to children ages 3 months to 14 years, our camp offers a safe and secure environment across two convenient locations in Plantation and Coral Springs. Campers enjoy exciting weekly field trips, engaging activities on our expansive 16-acre campus, and access to top-notch facilities, including a pool, gym, and sports fields. With luxury coach transportation available between campuses, kosher meals provided, and even an optional Orlando trip, every detail is designed for an amazing summer. Join us for a season of discovery, laughter, and lifelong memories!



Camp TDD

www.DorDorim.org
954-389-1232

Camp TDD offers programs for children from three months to ten years old. Its goal is to provide a safe and nurturing camp experience for children with age-appropriate activities such as theme days, puppet shows, live entertainment, special events, water play in the camp's own water park, and weekly field trips for older campers. Children will build self-confidence and develop social skills through the various fun-filled activities.



International Dance Academy

www.DancelDA.com
954-476-4419

At International Dance Academy's summer ballet camp, campers of all levels learn ballet skills while working for an impressive, end-of-camp stage production, complete with costumes and stunning set design. In addition to ballet, camp activities include choreography, jazz, stretch and strengthening, yoga, voice training, and arts and crafts.



Premier Martial Arts

www.premiermartialarts.com
954-440-2980

Premier Martial Arts stands at the forefront of martial arts instruction, committed to empowering students of all ages with the skills and discipline necessary for life's many challenges. Boasting a cadre of highly skilled and experienced instructors, the school offers a diverse selection of classes, including karate, kickboxing, Krav Maga, and more.

Its comprehensive curriculum and tailored approach to teaching ensure that each student receives the attention and guidance needed to accomplish their personal goals. From mastering complex techniques to enhancing self-confidence, Premier Martial Arts is dedicated to fostering an environment where students are motivated to achieve excellence both on the mat and in their daily lives.



Summer Camps at
Creative Child Learning Center
Themed Camps for Children Ages 5-11



Fun, Educational, Themed Camp Options:
Camp Explorer, STEM Camps,
Offering Themed, Age-Appropriate Activities!

*Ages vary by location



For more information visit
CreativeChildLearningCenter.com

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Coral Springs, FL 33076
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Davie – Plantation
1305 SW 101st Road
Davie, FL 33324
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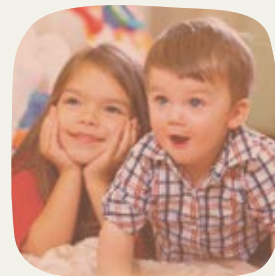
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Tree of Life Christian Academy

www.treeoflifeacademy.com
354-842-2238



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Tree of Life School Academy staff are highly trained and are qualified to care, educate and play with kids from ages 5 to 12 years old. The preschool is a recurring recipient of Our City's Best of Weston award.

Tiny Planet

www.tinyplanet.education
954-384-4884



Tiny Planet offers summer camp for children 1 to 8 years old. We have exciting weekly themes where we incorporate art, science, learning, and fun! We have weekly waterdays and also in-house field trips. They are multidisciplinary in their philosophies in order to promote children's strengths in all disciplines.

YAA Summer Art Camp

www.youngartmuseum.org/camp/
954-424-0085



The Young at Art Museum will host multiple camps this summer, including Art Exploration Camp, Specialty Art Camp and Digital Art Camp. Kids can design their own shirt, hat and umbrella while kicking back on the beach of their dreams; or, find their inner peace and amazing art with the dragon warrior.

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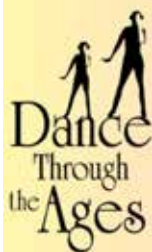
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FLATFOOT IN CHILDREN

By Dr. Carlo A. Messina



Developmental Flatfoot is one of the most common conditions affecting the musculoskeletal system of children and teenagers. There is a tendency for the child's flatfoot to be ignored or treated with benign

neglect. The facts are that it is NOT normal, the majority of children do NOT outgrow it and there IS cause for some concern. Flatfeet are a genetic problem. Ligaments in the arch which connect the bones together are loose, allowing the arch to collapse. Congenital bone abnormalities as well as trauma to the tendons and ligaments in the inner arch can cause flattening of the arch and foot. A common cause of developmental flatfoot is tightness in the calf muscles, which aggravates the severe foot deformity. Symptoms include young children constantly preferring to be carried by a parent or be put in a stroller due to fatigue in their legs. Leg pain, especially at night and premature fatigue with activity, es-

pecially in young children or teenagers. Inner leg, ankle and foot pain with activity is common. Occasionally associated with inner knee pain and lower back pain.

Signs include lowering or complete collapse of the arch. The front part of the foot is turned out relative to the back part of the foot and the arch bulges towards the inside of the ankle. Knock-Knees is common which exasperates the deformity. The feet, ankles, and legs just do not appear right upon examination or the patient is standing. The child can be overweight and lacks athletic ability, General inactivity or avoidance of activity in children is common. Abnormal shoe wear, as well as a child or teenager that does not run correctly, occurs due to the deformity

Treatment begins with a complete physical examination of the lower extremity and spine to find the underlying cause. This includes examining the child's gait (walking pattern). Physical therapy to strengthen weak muscles and loosen tight muscles and help to improve overall coordination. Occasional immobilization



of the extremity to loosen up tight muscles with a walking cast is necessary to decrease the deforming force of the calf muscle on the flatfoot. Custom molded shoe insoles (orthotics) to help permanently support the foot and put it in its proper position. In most cases this will overnight correct fatigue and leg pain that the child experiences. It will also help to allow better performance in activities of daily living or sports. In some cases when conservative treatment fails, surgery can be done to help with the problem. The appropriate treatment plan can be a life-changing experience for the child! Prognosis is excellent, especially with timely management of the problem.

Carlo A. Messina, DPM, is a Board Certified Reconstructive Foot and Ankle Surgeon, Diplomate American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery. He is a Foot and Ankle Surgeon with the South Florida Foot & Ankle Sports Institute and specializes in treating infants, children, teens and adults.

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RIDE SMART, STAY SAFE: BICYCLE SAFETY TIPS & FAMILY FUN NIGHT

By **Todd Draizin**

District Chief - Weston

Dept. of Fire Rescue and Emergency Services

Bicycling is a wonderful way for families to stay active, explore the community, and enjoy the outdoors together. However, ensuring that every ride is a safe one is essential. The Broward Sheriff's Office Department of Fire Rescue is dedicated to keeping families safe by providing essential bicycle safety tips for the whole family.

Follow these essential bicycle safety tips to keep your family riding safely:

1. Always Wear a Helmet – Helmets can reduce the risk of head injuries in case of a fall or crash. Make sure your helmet fits properly—snug but comfortable, with the strap secured under your chin.
2. Check Your Bike Before Each Ride – Inspect brakes, tires, and chains to ensure they are in good working order.
3. Be Visible – Wear bright or reflective clothing and ensure your bike has reflectors and working lights, especially if riding in low-light conditions.
4. Ride in Safe Areas – Stick to bike lanes, trails, or designated riding areas whenever possible. Teach children to avoid busy roads and intersections.
5. Follow Traffic Rules – Bicycles are considered vehicles, so always ride with traffic, obey stop signs and signals, and use proper hand signals when turning.
6. Watch for Pedestrians and Cars – Stay alert and make eye contact with drivers when crossing streets. Avoid distractions like wearing headphones or using a phone while riding.
7. Teach Kids Bicycle Safety Early – Children should learn the basics of bicycle safety, including starting, stopping, and looking both ways before entering the street.

Put your bicycle safety knowledge to the test while having fun with the whole family! Join us for Family Bicycle Safety BINGO Night! This free community event is a great way to reinforce safe riding habits in a fun and interactive setting. Whether you're a new rider or an experienced cyclist, everyone can benefit from bicycle safety education. Family Bicycle Safety BINGO Night will feature opportunities for participants to:

- Participate in a lively game of Bicycle Safety BINGO and win fun prizes.
- Learn key bicycle and pedestrian safety tips through engaging activities.
- Receive a free properly fitted bicycle helmet (while supplies last)*. *Registration is required for bicycle helmets.
- Meet local firefighters and safety educators who care about keeping you and your family safe.

Location: Weston Community Center

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2025 | Time: 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Registration: <https://BSOFireRescuePublicEducation.as.me/BikeSafety>

Don't miss this opportunity to learn, have fun, and keep your family safe on two wheels. We look forward to seeing you at Family Bicycle Safety BINGO Night!



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PROTECT YOUR VISION THE IMPORTANCE OF WEARING SUNGLASSES

By Dr. Jane Therrien, Optometric Physician



As the weather warms up and we spend more time outdoors, it's important to be aware of the potential damage that UV radiation can cause to our eyes. UV radiation can lead to a range of eye problems, including cataracts, macular degeneration, and even cancer of the eye. Fortunately, there's a simple way to protect your eyes from the harmful effects of UV radiation: wear sunglasses.

When choosing sunglasses, it's important to look for a few key features. First and foremost, make sure that the sunglasses you choose provide 100% protection against both UVA and UVB rays. This will help to protect your eyes from the full range of harmful radiation that the sun can emit.

Polarized lenses can also be helpful in reducing glare and improving visibility, particularly when you're spending time on

the water or in other bright environments. And if you're someone who spends a lot of time driving, consider choosing a pair of sunglasses with lenses that are specifically designed for driving. These lenses can help to reduce glare and improve contrast, making it easier to see the road and avoid accidents.

It's not just adults who need to be mindful of protecting their eyes - children are particularly susceptible to damage from UV radiation, since their eyes are still developing. Make sure that kids are wearing sunglasses when they're outside, and that they're also wearing hats to provide additional protection.

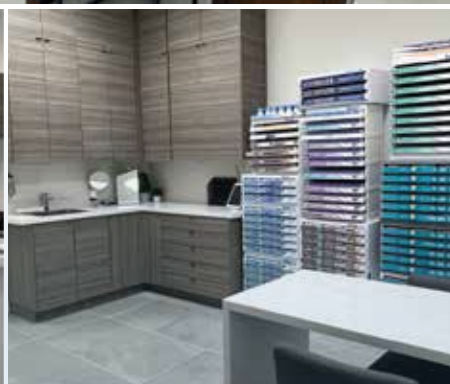
When it comes to choosing sunglasses for kids, look for models that are specifically designed for children. These sunglasses are typically smaller in size and are made from materials that are more durable and less likely to break. Many children's sunglasses also come with fun designs and colors that kids will enjoy wearing.

Remember that sunglasses aren't just for sunny days - they can be helpful year-round,

even when it's overcast or cloudy outside. UV radiation can still penetrate clouds and cause damage to your eyes, so it's important to wear sunglasses even on days when the sun isn't shining as brightly.

Finally, be sure to take good care of your sunglasses to ensure that they last as long as possible. Store them in a protective case when you're not wearing them, and avoid leaving them in hot cars or other areas where they might be exposed to extreme temperatures.

In conclusion, wearing sunglasses is an easy and effective way to protect your eyes from the harmful effects of UV radiation. Look for sunglasses that provide 100% protection against UVA and UVB rays, and consider additional features like polarized lenses or lenses designed for driving. And don't forget to make sure that your children are wearing sunglasses as well. With a little bit of care and attention, you can help to ensure that your eyes stay healthy and protected for years to come.



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UNLOCKING BUSINESS GROWTH: WHY MASTERING ENGLISH AND SPANISH IS ESSENTIAL

By Dr. Katya Pizarro, Founder, ESL & Higher Education



In today's global economy, language is more than just communication—it's a business advantage. Among the world's most influential languages, English and Spanish stand out, offering access to vast markets and new opportunities. Mastering both can elevate your business by expanding reach, strengthening relationships, and enhancing competitiveness.

Expanding Market Reach

English is the global language of business, spoken by over 1.5 billion people. It dominates international trade, technology, and corporate communication, making it essential for engaging with global clients and investors.

Spanish, with over 460 million native speakers, is the second-most spoken language worldwide. Latin America, Spain, and the U.S. Hispanic market present enormous growth potential. Companies fluent in Spanish gain a significant edge

in these expanding economies. Together, English and Spanish provide access to some of the world's most lucrative markets.

Strengthening Customer Relationships

Effective communication builds trust. Speaking a customer's native language—whether English or Spanish—creates a personal connection, improving satisfaction and loyalty. Businesses that can address customer needs directly, understand preferences, and resolve concerns efficiently stand out from competitors. Whether in a local shop or a multinational company, language fluency enhances the customer experience and fosters long-term relationships.

Enhancing Negotiations & Partnerships

Successful deals require more than just numbers—they require understanding. Negotiating in English and Spanish allows businesses to establish trust and credibility in diverse markets. Fluency in Spanish is especially valuable in Latin America, where cultural awareness plays a crucial role in business success. Likewise, proficiency in English opens doors to international

partnerships and high-value collaborations. Mastering both languages strengthens business relationships and broadens global opportunities.

Navigating Cultural Insights

Language and culture are inseparable. Effective marketing and branding require an understanding of cultural nuances. A phrase, color, or symbol that works in an English-speaking market may not resonate—or could even offend—in a Spanish-speaking one. Businesses fluent in both languages can tailor their messaging to different audiences, avoiding missteps and maximizing impact.

A Competitive Edge

Fluency in English and Spanish isn't just an asset—it's a necessity for businesses looking to grow. It enables companies to expand into new markets, build strong relationships, and secure valuable partnerships. In a world where connections drive success, speaking both languages means speaking the language of opportunity.

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Two Invaluable Putting Tips

By Dean Sklar, PGA Professional



Putting using a name or line on your ball can really help in setting you on the correct path line. The key is to use your dominant eye so you will not struggle in correctly lining up your ball.

First, to determine your dominant eye, hold both hands out in front of you clasped together and create a small hole to look at the flag. Close one eye at a time to determine which eye is still able to see the flag. The eye that you see the flag with is your dominant eye and you

will want to use that eye in lining up your ball.

If you are left eye dominant you will want to aim your ball line with your left hand. If right eye dominant, use your right hand to aim your ball line at the target. Use the same hand to increase the odds of getting the ball directly in line between your dominant eye and the target. You should now find it much easier to aim the ball directly at the target.

Once your ball is all lined up, go set up to the ball and make sure the clubface alignment matches the balls. Now you are ready to stoke it at your target. Trust your aim, begin focusing on your speed and you will become a better putter. If you are having difficulty matching your putter to the line (so it feels like you are aiming at your target), you may want to change your set-up until they match.

Check to see if your eye is directly over the ball. Think about why this is so important. When you line up to putt you want to see the direct line from the ball to the intended target. In this case, it's the hole that you are putting the ball into. Set up to putt with your normal putting stance over the ball and place a ball under your eye. Now you want to release that ball to see if it lands directly on top of the ball that you are using to putt into the hole. If the ball lands before it, you are standing too far away. If the ball lands past the ball to the right, you are standing too close. Keep trying this test to make sure your eye is directly over it with the ball always landing directly on top of it. You will be surprised how you need to make the proper adjustment to get the eye directly over the ball and see the right line that you are stroking the putter head on the same path your eyes see it.

As always, see your local teaching Professional for a putting lesson. No one knows the game better than them.

- ▶ PGA Professional Dean Sklar is a member of the Quarter Century Club of the PGA of America, an elite group of members who have served the PGA with honor and pride for 25 years. If you would like to talk to Dean about your golf game, contact him at Dean@SklarTeam.com or visit Rose and Dean Sklar at Coldwell Banker online at www.SklarTeam.com.

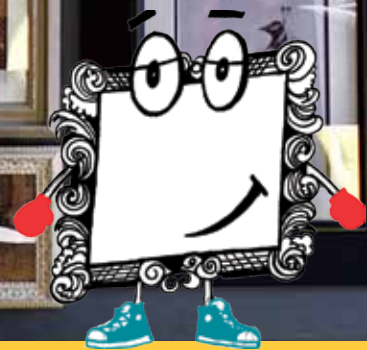


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Canine Urine Marking

By Miguel E. Cordova, DVM

What is Canine Urine Marking?

Canine urine marking is a natural, instinctive behavior in dogs, but it is not appropriate inside the house. Dogs, especially sexually intact male dogs, urinate on objects to mark their territory or to leave a message for other dogs. Urine marking behavior usually begins when the dog reaches sexual maturity.

What Causes Canine Urine Marking?

An intact male dog is most likely to mark when there is a female dog in heat nearby. Intact female dogs are also prone to marking when they are in heat. However, any dog may mark if another dog has urinated anywhere in the house. By urinating on the previous site of urination, the dog essentially “remarks” that location as its own territory. Unless the scent of the urine is completely removed, the dog is likely to keep urinating there. In multi-dog households, dogs, especially of the same sex, may compete for dominance, which can result in urine marking. This same behavior can occur in a confident dog that feels dominant to the owner.

Any anxiety-producing situation can trigger urine marking as well. Workmen in the house, the arrival of a new baby, or visiting relatives can all produce anxiety in a dog. Even the addition of a new TV or a new computer may threaten a dog so that it feels compelled to mark the packing boxes. Rest assured, your dog is not trying to get back at you. It’s just doing what comes naturally.

How Is Canine Urine Marking Diagnosed?

Your veterinarian will start by discussing when, where, and how often the behavior occurs. A workup should be conducted to rule out medical disorders that may be causing the problem. If there are no medical causes, your veterinarian will need to determine if incomplete house-training or other behavioral conditions are causing the problem.

How Can It Be Treated?

In most cases, overcoming urine marking requires multiple steps:

- **NEUTERING:** If the dog is sexually intact, neutering is the first step. In many cases, male dogs that are neutered stop urine marking within weeks to months of the procedure. Female dogs that are spayed almost always stop the behavior. However, behavior modification is often needed as well.
- **POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT:** Never punish a dog for urine marking. Punishment can create more anxiety, which may only exacerbate the problem. Instead, you need to supervise your pet closely. If you see the dog starting to eliminate inside, interrupt him or her with a firm “No,” and bring the pet outside. When the dog urinates outside, reward him or her with praise and treats. Make sure to bring your dog outside frequently, always providing rewards for appropriate urination outdoors.
- **CONFINEMENT:** During retraining, it helps to limit your

dog’s access to frequently marked areas. You may need to confine your dog to a room or small area by shutting doors or by using baby gates or a crate. As your dog’s behavior improves, you can gradually increase his or her freedom in the house. Be careful to frequently exercise your dog outside, so your dog does not become agitated with long periods of confinement.

- **ESTABLISH DOMINANCE:** Some dogs need to be gently reminded that you are the boss and that they need to work for rewards. Ask your dog to sit or lay down, then provide a reward such as a treat or a walk and TLC!
 - **MEDICATIONS:** As a last resort, you can consult your veterinarian for medications. In most cases, dogs are given a type of antidepressant. These drugs often take 4 to 6 weeks to make a difference. However, behavior modification is always the first choice and should continue, even with medications
- **Animal Health Center @ Weston** is “The Gentle Practice You Can Rely On” Dr. Miguel E. Cordova and his staff are committed to caring for your precious pets. For more information call 954-385-8389 or visit them online at: www.animalhealthcenteratweston.com



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AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

By State Representative Robin Bartleman

April is Autism Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness and support individuals with autism and their families. As a former special education teacher, I know how imperative it is that we work towards inclusion and access to resources. I am proud to sponsor bills this session aimed at improving educational opportunities for children with disabilities.

I am sponsoring HB 423 – Family Empowerment Scholarship Program - this bill ensures that parents will have all of the information needed to make an informed decision before using a voucher to enroll their child in a private school. When a parent uses a voucher for a private school, they must waive their right to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). FAPE is a legal right that ensures students with disabilities receive free public education, including special education, related services like speech therapy, accommodations, and access to school activities. By

using a voucher for a private school, parents give up these protections. The private school has no legal obligation to follow the child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or provide related services. This bill is simply a consumer protection for parents. Many leave the public school system and don't find out until after they've enrolled in the private school that their child may not receive the same level of service, accommodations, or therapies outlined in the IEP. If passed, this bill will ensure that private schools will be required to provide details in writing about their academic programs, policies, and what accommodations and related services they will provide based on the child's IEP, 504 Plan, EP, or English Language Learner Plan. This will help families make informed choices about their child's education.

There are several resources in Florida that support families with children with Autism:

Call 2-1-1 for a free and confidential 24-hour helpline. A caseworker will connect you with resources.

Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) provides resources and assistance to families of children with autism. Visit their

website at www.myflfamilies.com.

The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) helps individuals, families, schools, and communities by facilitating access to evidence-based education and treatment services, assisting with individualized consultative support, and providing support after graduation to promote workforce or higher education and adult living success. You can contact them at (954)262-7111.



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ADAPTING TO THE SHIFTING MARKET: OPPORTUNITIES IN THE REAL ESTATE LANDSCAPE

By Rose Sklar



The real estate market is undergoing a natural period of correction, similar to when you're remodeling your home. It's a time of adjustment, reevaluation, and finding better ways to optimize what you have. Just like any major project, while it might look a little messy at first, the end result will be worth it.

In Florida, specifically in Broward County, we're seeing a shift in the housing market that reflects broader trends across the country. The inventory of available homes has been growing, which gives buyers more choices than they've had in recent years. A report from Redfin highlights that, in January 2025, Broward County saw nearly 10 months of housing supply—the highest since the tail end of the 2007-2012 crash. While this may sound like a long time, it actually signifies a market beginning to balance itself. The days of limited options and skyrocketing prices may be behind us, and that's actually a positive sign for many homebuyers.

This influx of inventory suggests that the Florida housing market, as a whole, is becoming more balanced. Since the beginning of 2025, mortgage rates have generally followed a fluctuating path, but have been trending towards a lower point than they were at the beginning of the year, it's no surprise that buyers and sellers are taking a more measured approach. The slowing price growth is offering buyers an opportunity to enter the market without the rush and frenzy of the past few years.

What's even more encouraging is that the market is adjusting in a healthy way. The growth in inventory is helping to reduce some of the supply constraints that have been so challenging in recent years. For homebuyers, especially first-time buyers, this means a little more breathing room and a better chance to negotiate.

We're also seeing a drop in investor home purchases, which is a natural correction and suggests that the housing market is beginning to return to more normal, sustainable levels. In fact, the decline in investor activity could help to lower competition for homes, giving owner-occupants a better shot at securing their dream home.

Although pending home sales have been down, this could actually be an opportunity for those who are ready to act. With fewer bidding wars and less urgency, the process of buying a home is becoming more thoughtful and deliberate. There's less pressure to make quick decisions, which allows buyers to feel more confident and make choices that align with their long-term goals.

Yes, in some areas, prices are slowing down or even dipping slightly, but that's actually an exciting shift for buyers. It's an opportunity to purchase in areas that were previously out of reach, or to secure a home at a price that better aligns with personal budgets. It's all part of the market finding its new rhythm.

Ultimately, while the market correction might feel uncomfortable at times, it's a sign of a more sustainable and balanced environment. It's like finishing up a remodel—the home may feel a little chaotic during the renovation, but in the end, it's stronger, more efficient, and more aligned with your needs. This correction is helping to stabilize the market and set the stage for more reasonable, steady growth in the years ahead.

In this environment, both buyers and sellers have more opportunities than they may have thought. It's a great time to get creative, be strategic, and make the most of the market's natural evolution.



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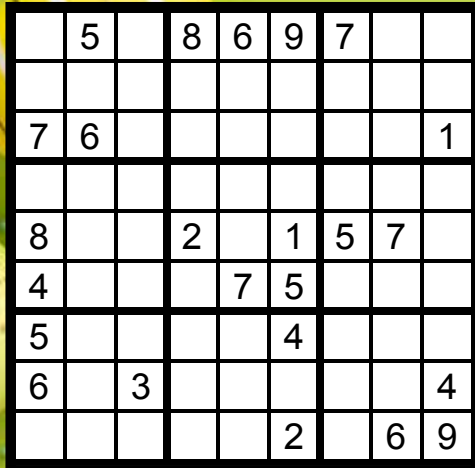
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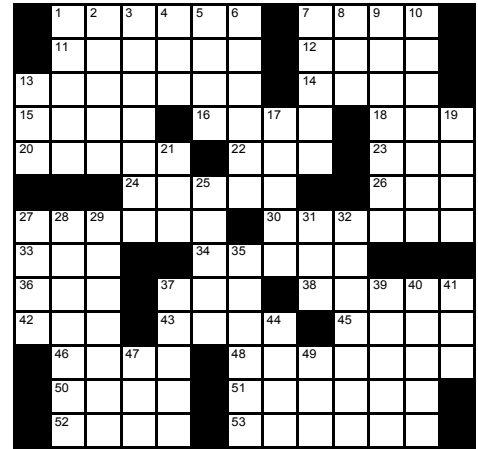
PUZZLES



Scan for Answers

Across

- 1 Mass confusion
- 7 Sandwich type, ___ boy
- 11 Individually
- 12 Vermin
- 13 City on the Elbe
- 14 ___ Loma, Calif.
- 15 Lyric poems
- 16 Enthralled
- 18 Peculiar
- 20 Black ink item
- 22 Stage prompt
- 23 Life story, briefly
- 24 Escapade
- 26 Naval rank (Abbr.)
- 27 Commonly repeated phrase
- 30 Materialize
- 33 Parisian article
- 34 Navigate
- 36 Order's partner
- 37 Simile words
- 38 Reading aids
- 42 Bird-to-be
- 43 Hawaiian rings
- 45 Indian dress
- 46 Hindu princess
- 48 American elk
- 50 Egyptian solar deity
- 51 Posthaste
- 52 Parcel (out)
- 53 Horse whispers?



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Down

- 1 Poets
- 2 Fencing swords
- 3 Analyze
- 4 Conducted
- 5 Maple genus
- 6 Threaten
- 7 Dish
- 8 Painter's medium
- 9 Columbus Day month
- 10 PA city
- 13 ER pronunciation
- 17 Thick soup
- 19 Medicinal amount
- 21 Road topping
- 25 Old-hat
- 27 Pack animal
- 28 Puzzle type
- 29 Notorious London prison
- 31 Actor Gibson
- 32 No-no on some tests
- 35 Island in Southeast Asia
- 37 Skirt style
- 39 Fire starter
- 40 Jimmies
- 41 Bro's sibling
- 44 Fill to excess
- 47 Fishing aid
- 49 Polynesian paste

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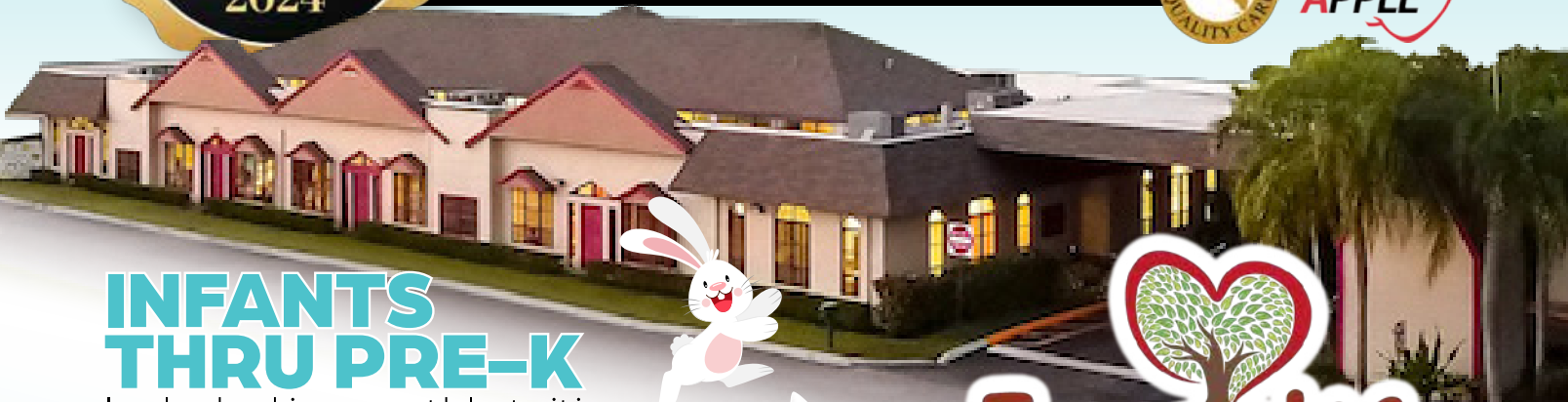
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